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COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: T-5

June 18, 2002

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: James A. Noyes
Director of Public Works

STREET LIGHTING DISTRICTS LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING ACT FISCAL YEAR 2002-03 ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS JUNE 25, 2002, PUBLIC HEARING

On April 30, 2002, the Board adopted a Resolution Initiating Proceedings for the proposed Fiscal Year 2002-03 annual street lighting assessments for the Lighting Districts in the unincorporated County area and the 15 Cities where the County administers street lights.

The adoption of the annual street lighting assessments is a three-step process. The first step is the adoption of the Resolution Initiating Proceedings. The second step is the approval of the annual Engineer's Report and the Board action to set a date for a public hearing. On June 11, 2002, the Board approved and filed two separate annual Engineer's Reports, one for the unincorporated County area and 14 Cities and the other for the Palmdale Lighting Districts (County Lighting Maintenance District 1616 and County Lighting District LLA-1, Palmdale Zone), and set June 25, 2002, as the date of public hearing for both items. The third step is the actual adoption of the proposed assessments at the public hearing provided there is no significant protest.

In our Board letter for the annual Engineer's Report for the Palmdale Lighting Districts, we stated that additional revenues are needed to augment the proposed annual assessments and that additional information would be furnished to address the administrative and financial issues for the Palmdale Lighting Districts for Fiscal Year 2002-03. After a thorough review of all available options, we propose to finance any budget shortfall during Fiscal Year 2002-03 by providing Fifth District Highway-Through-Cities funding from the Road Fund.

It is essential that your Board adopt the annual street lighting assessments at the recommended rates or adjusted as your Board deems appropriate, since the existing assessments expire annually and will lapse unless a positive action is taken by your Board to continue at least some level of funding for the continued operation of the street lights.

JPH:kw
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cc: Chief Administrative Office, Executive Office